

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Linking Regional Aerosol Emission Changes with Multiple Impact Measures through Direct and Cloud-Related Forcing Estimates

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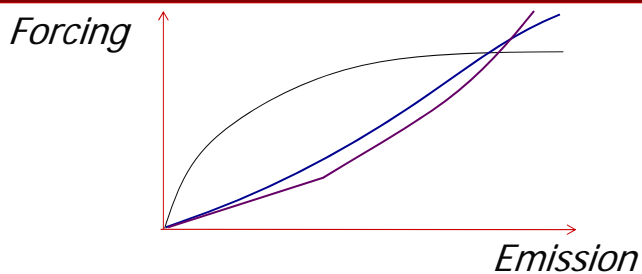
Clean Air Task Force



The simple view



A dose-response curve for the atmosphere



this presentation will contain a small discussion on

What we learned from "Bounding-BC"

*"Bounding the Role of Black Carbon
in the Climate System" (32 co-authors)*

was submitted to J.Geophys.Res. on March 28, 2012

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If accepted,

it will be about 200 journal pages
including 28 tables & 43 figures

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Initiative of IGBP-IGAC/WCRP-SPARC

Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Initiative (AC&C)

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"Bounding BC" goals

- ✦ **Comprehensive**
 - Examine all effects
 - Consider all models
- ✦ **Quantitative** (as far as possible)
 - Estimate forcing *per emission* and then forcing *per action*
 - Provide uncertainties
- ✦ **Diagnostic**
 - Identify reasons for differences

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Principle 1

There is no BC, but only “BC-rich sources”

- ✦ Realistic **source changes** may alter emissions of all these species.

source changes = mitigation, economic change

- ✦ Short-lived, co-emitted species include:
BC, organic matter (OM), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), NO_x, and ozone precursors

Implication: we cannot focus only on BC

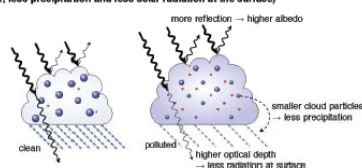
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Principle 2

Direct forcing is only the beginning

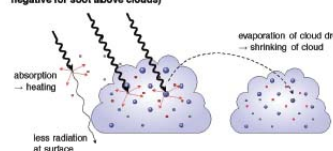
source: IPCC AR4, ch7

Cloud albedo and lifetime effect (negative radiative effect for warm clouds at TOA; less precipitation and less solar radiation at the surface)



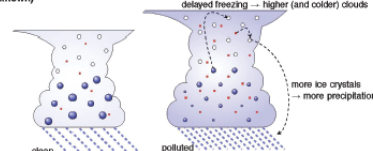
Liquid clouds:
“indirect”
effect

Semi-direct effect (positive radiative effect at TOA for soot inside clouds, negative for soot above clouds)



Liquid clouds:
“semi-direct”
effect

Glaciation effect (positive radiative effect at TOA and more precipitation), thermodynamic effect (sign of radiative effect and change in precipitation not yet known)



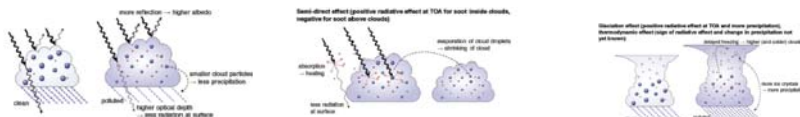
Ice and mixed clouds

Figure 7.20. Schematic diagram of the aerosol effects discussed in Table 7.10. TOA refers to the top of the atmosphere.

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Bounding-BC lesson

The big uncertainty in BC-rich sources

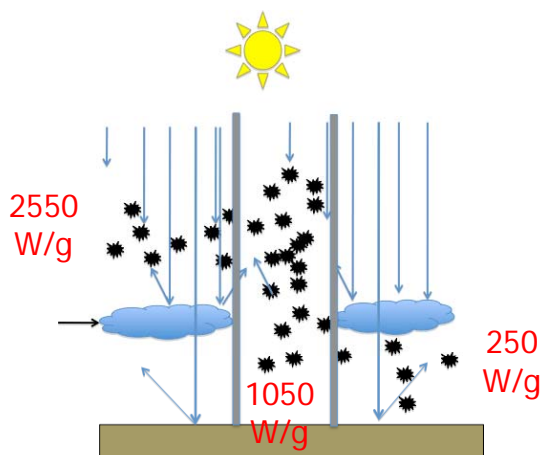


- ✦ BC → direct forcing ~ bounded
- ✦ BC → cloud forcing
~ large uncertainties – especially in **ice/mixed**
- ✦ OC + SO₄ → direct forcing
~ small for BC-rich sources
- ✦ OC + SO₄ → cloud forcing
~ large and probably negative

It's the indirect effects of co-emitted species that cause big questions about immediate forcing

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Relative location of BC and clouds affects direct forcing



BUT, while doing this study, we found that the modeled clouds weren't accurate (older version of Community Atmosphere Model)

Zarzycki & Bond, GRL 2010

Note: Also affects semi-direct forcing; see Ban-Weiss et al, Clim Dyn, 2011

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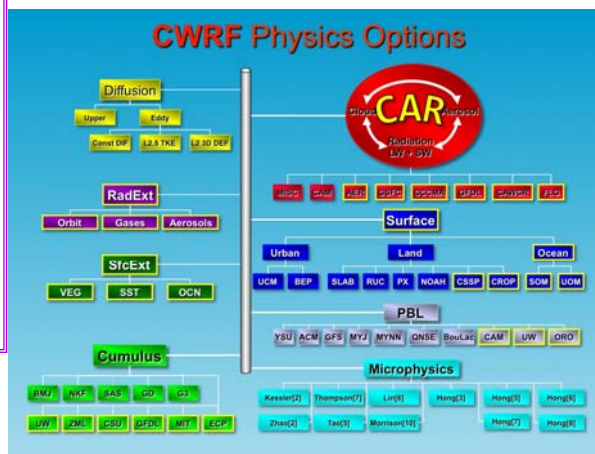


Detour: Get the clouds right first!

Objective 2:
Identify best estimates and uncertainties for fields of direct and cloud-related forcing using an ensemble of parameterizations

University of Maryland

Xin-Zhong Liang & Hang Lei



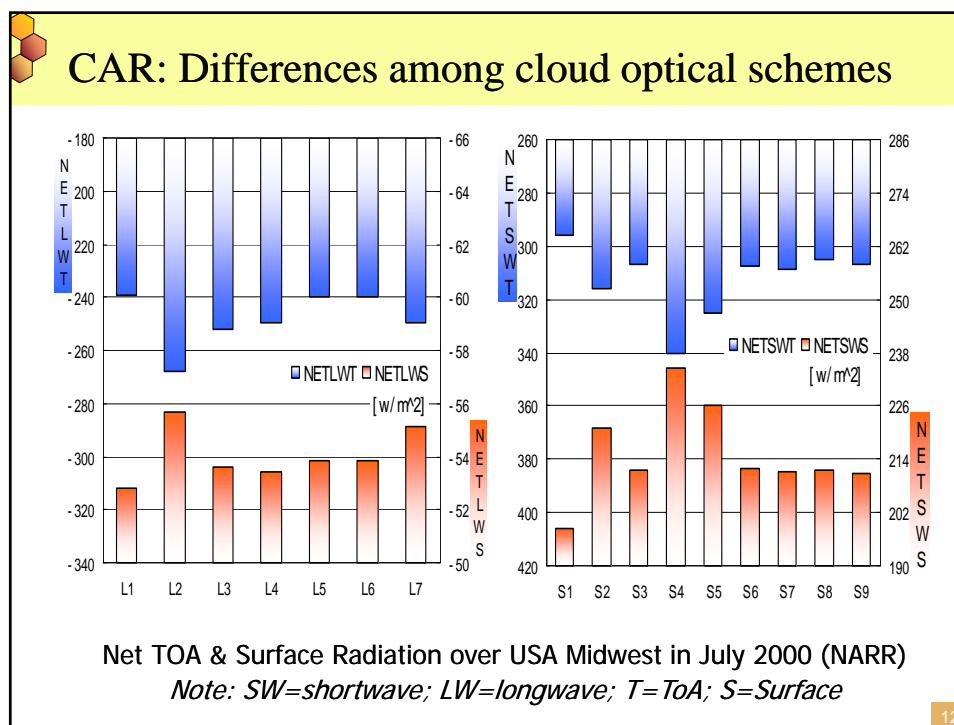
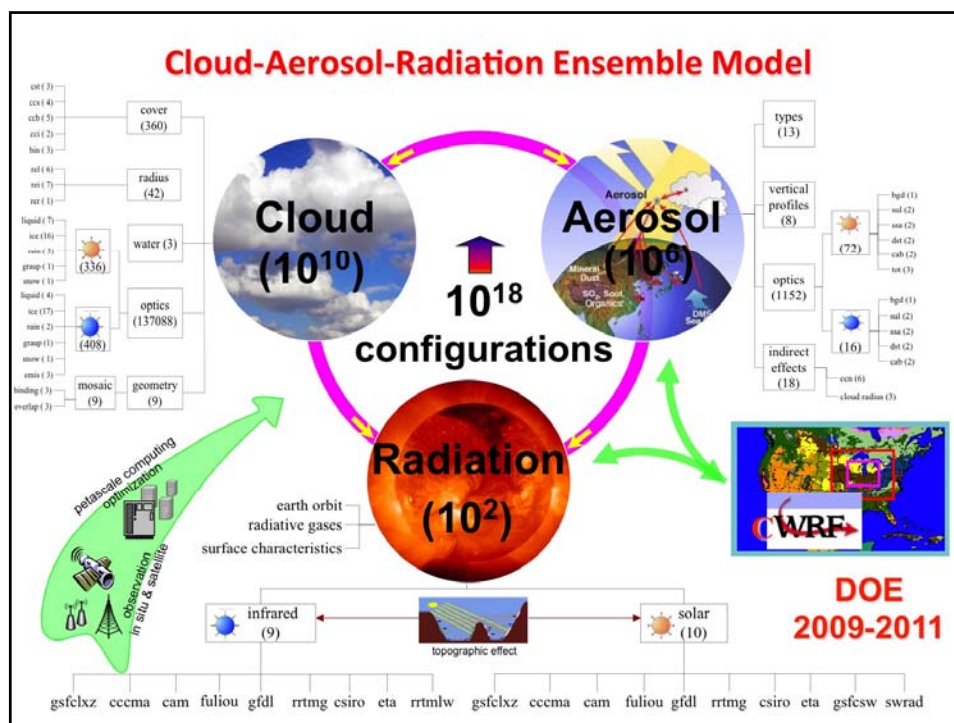
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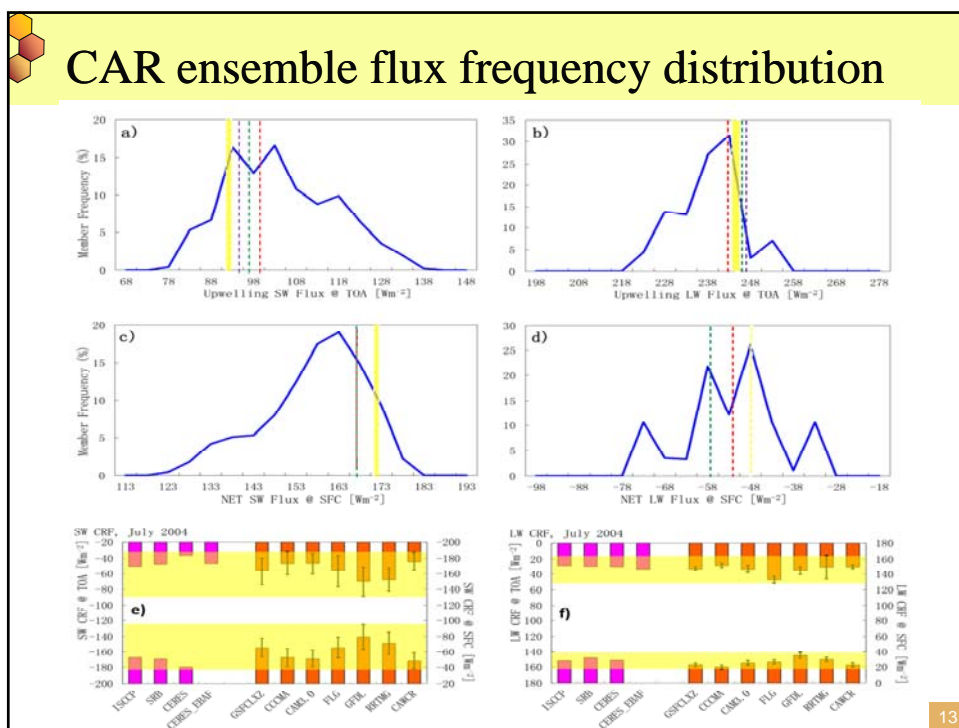


Cloud-Aerosol-Radiation Modeling System

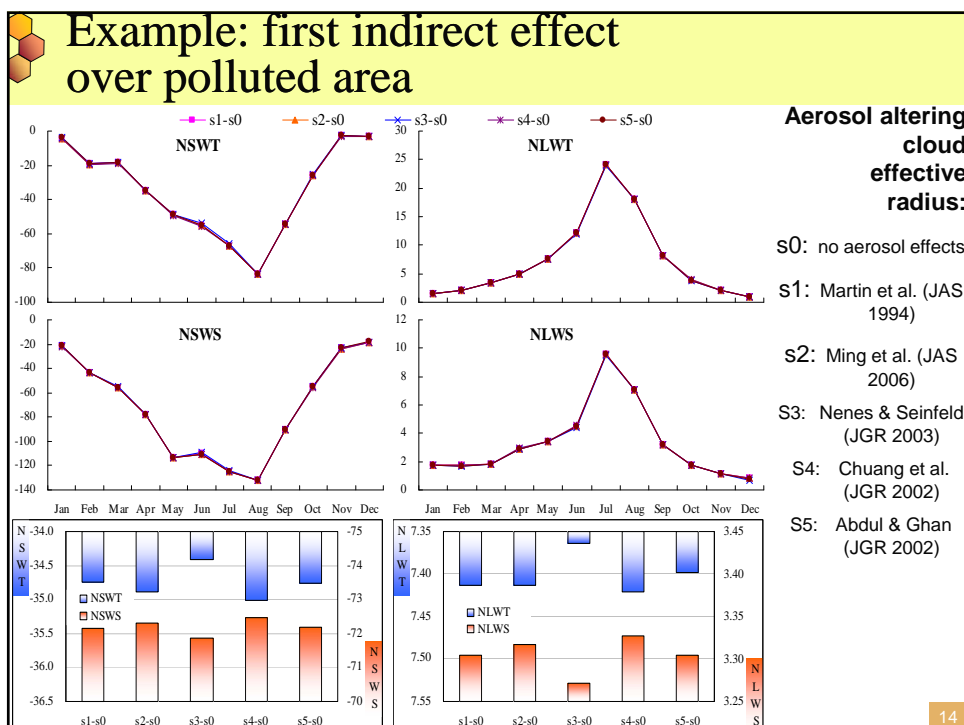
- ✦ 7 complete packages from latest global weather forecast or climate prediction models: NCAR, GFDL, NCEP, NASA, ECMWF, CCCMA, Fu-Liou (ARM)
- ✦ 7 distinct modules to facilitate plug-and-play capability among parameterizations:
 - **3 main drivers** (*cloud*, *aerosol*, *radiation*) provide the hubs for alternative parameterizations for cloud properties (cover, water, radius, geometry), aerosol properties (type, profile), and radiation transfers (solar, infrared)
 - **3 couplers** (*cld_2_rad* for cloud optics, *aer_2_rad* for aerosol optics, *aer_2_cld* for aerosol impacts on cloud droplet nucleation) interface interactions (cloud radiative forcings, aerosol direct and indirect effects) across all spectral bands
 - **1 external** (*rad_ext*) manages all external forcings, such as solar insolation, earth orbit variations, radiative gas concentrations, aerosol loadings, surface albedo, emissivity and topographic impacts

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Approach to ensemble modeling

- Choose members of ensemble for which radiation matches observations
- Use these members to develop a family of forcing fields in response to aerosols

Shown here: Cloud optical depth fields from Koch et al., ACP 2011

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Aerosol effects are size-dependent

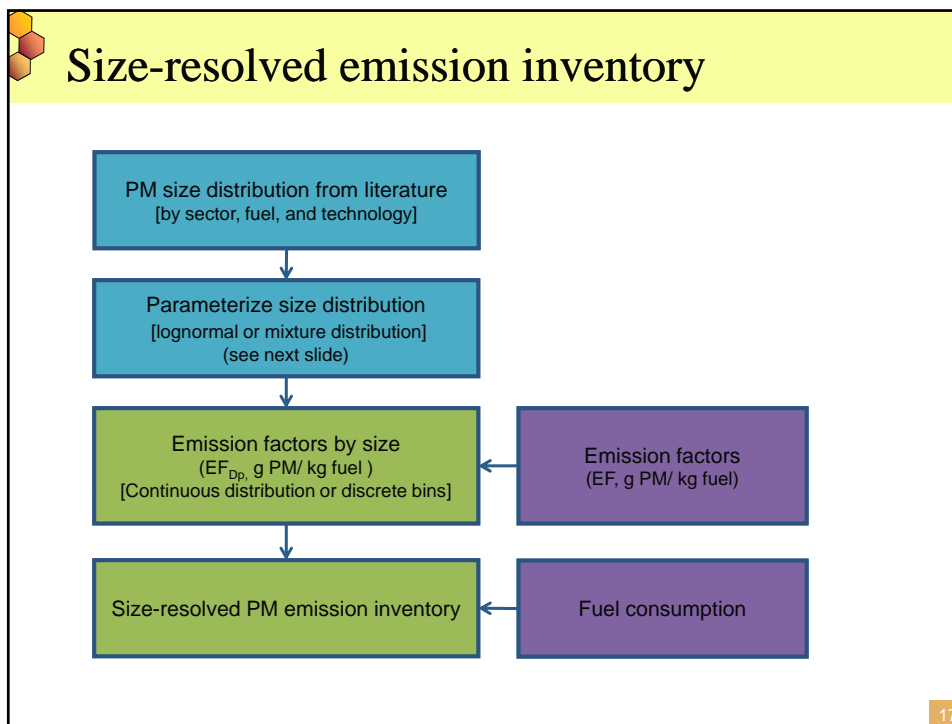
Objective 1: Develop size-resolved, speciated emission inventories of aerosols & precursors

Argonne National Laboratory
David G. Streets

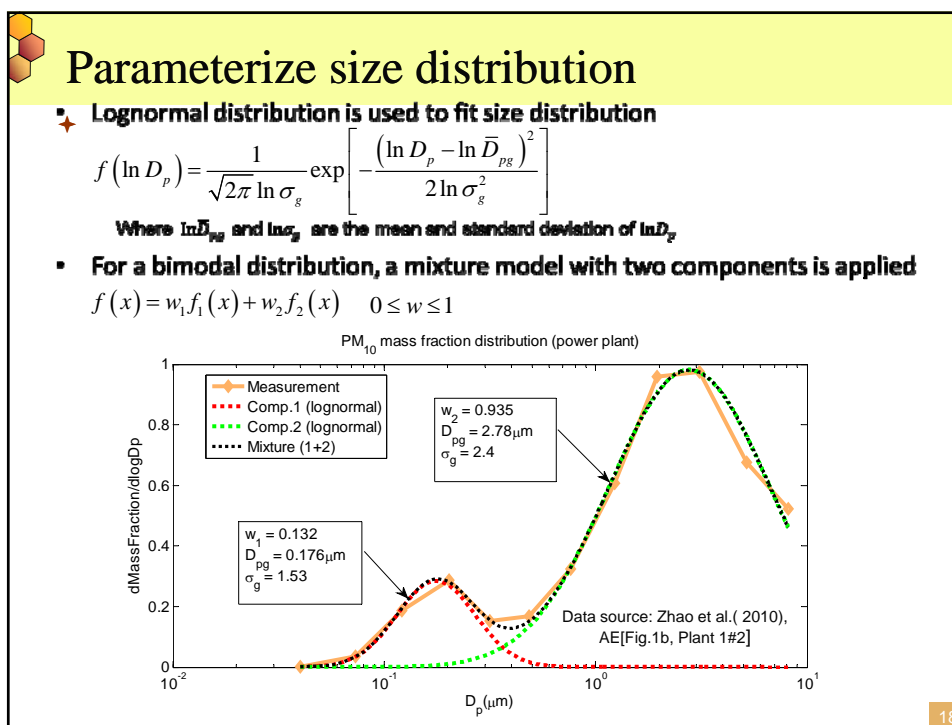
Fig. 4. Global mean AIE and ADE [W/m^2] values for all size experiments, (S1–4) and the base experiment, BA, for present day conditions.

Bauer et al., ACP, 2010
for carbonaceous aerosols

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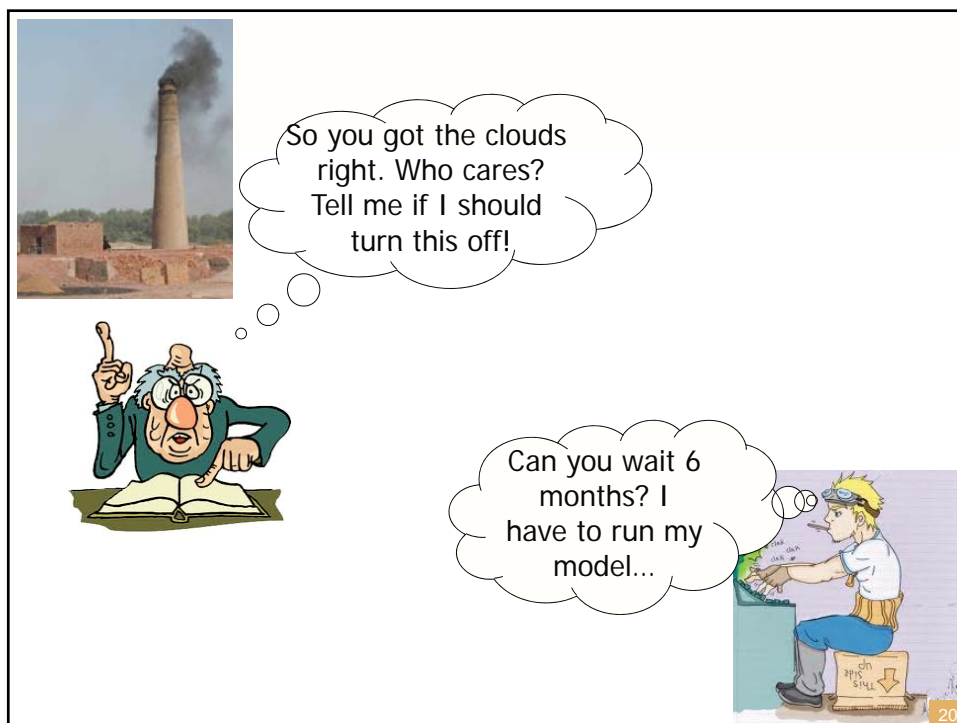
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Ultimate goal of task 1 (size-resolved)

- ✦ Size-resolved emission inventory will be made available via web-based interface
- ✦ Gridded data will be requested via web form with quick turnaround

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Metric: quick 'n' dirty estimate

- ✦ A **metric** is a measure of climate impact per emission.
- ✦ By some definitions (but not mine) a metric must provide comparison to CO₂.

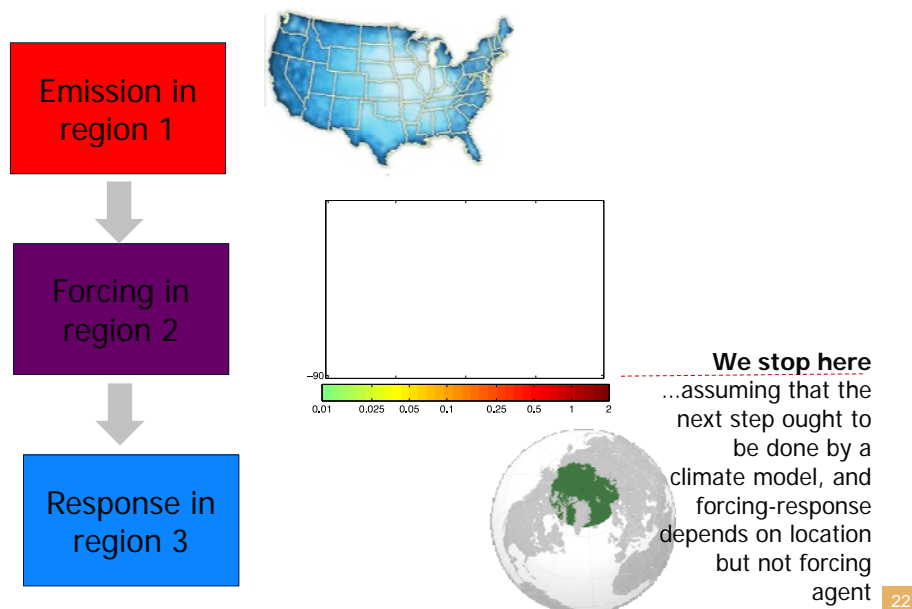
Principle 3

- ✦ For species that aren't well mixed (short-lived climate forcers), impact depends on **location** and **time** of emission.

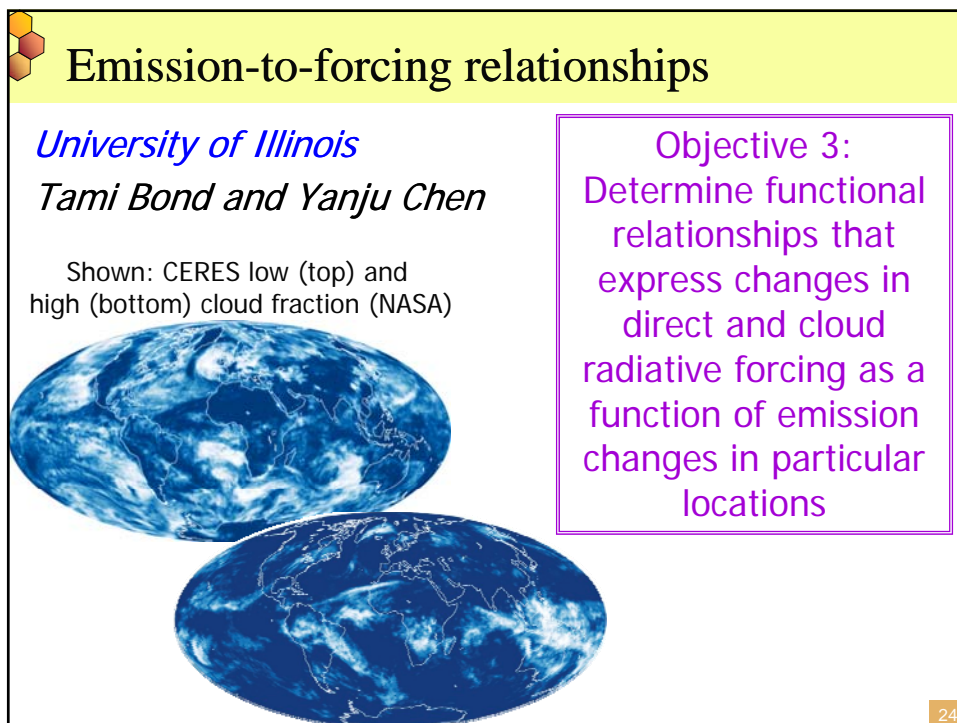
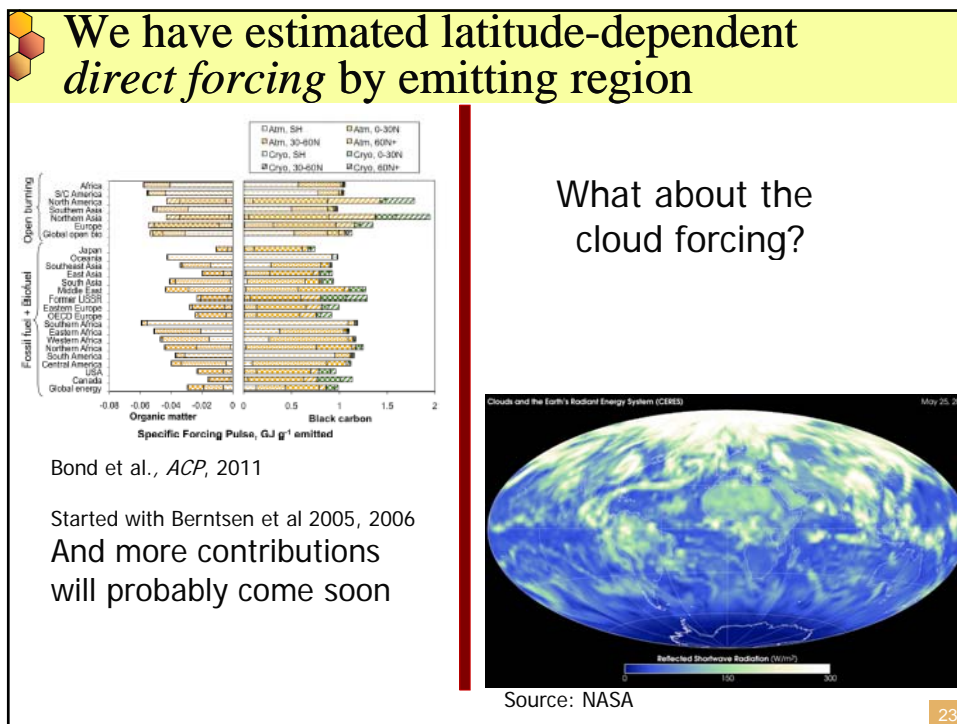
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Spatial dependence of impact measures



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Possible approaches

All beginning with the selected model ensemble

- ✦ Reduce emissions from regions one at a time
- ✦ Tag emissions from specific regions and apportion impact
- ✦ Philosophy: Many things are quasi-linear, or at least monotonic

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Calculation of metric M :

“As simple as possible, but no simpler”

F=forcing
E=emission

$$M = \frac{F}{E}$$



depends on
emitting region

$$M = \frac{F_{location2}}{E_{location1}}$$



probably
nonlinear

$$M = \omega(conc) \frac{F_{location2}}{E_{location1}}$$

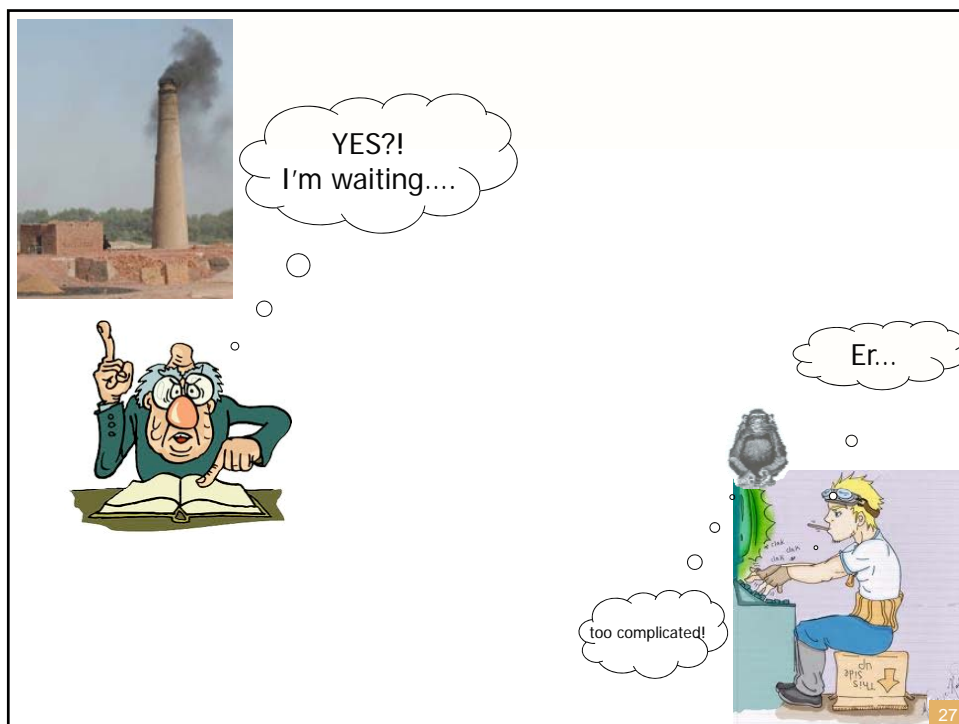



too complicated!

U of Maryland post-doc
> CAR model <

U of Illinois post-doc
> interpretation <

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Emission-to-forcing relationships

Objective 4: Iterate emission-to-forcing measures as communication tools between decision makers and climate scientists

Clean Air Task Force

Praveen Amar

Target audience:
Northeast US state decisionmakers

Specific topics:

- Meaning of emission-to-impact
- Short vs long-lived
- Role of uncertainty



Summary of objectives

- 1: Develop size-resolved, speciated emission inventories of aerosols & precursors
- 2: Provide best estimates and uncertainties for forcing fields using ensembles
- 3: Express changes in direct and cloud radiative forcing as a function of emission changes
- 4: Iterate emission-to-forcing measures between decision-makers and climate scientists

Questions??